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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/427,070	04/24/95	DICKINSON	R PKR-2-363-4

QM12/1004

THOMAS E KOCOVSKY JR
FAY SHARPE BEALL FAGAN MINNICH AND MCKEE
1100 SUPERIOR AVENUE
SUITE 700
CLEVELAND OH 44114

EXAMINER

CASLER, B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3737

DATE MAILED: 10/04/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/427,070

Applicant(s)

DICKINSON ET AL.

Examiner

Brian L Casler

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 August 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 18-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been:
1. ☐ received.
2. ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number) _____.
3. ☐ received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The amendment filed 5/24/00 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132 because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132 states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: the subject matter directed to " Once the patient is positioned within the gap, the patient bed 33 and the spaced-apart structures 32 are substantially immobilized...For example, a locking pin can be passed through the rails or rollers 32 and into the base portion 25".

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claim 18 sets forth, in lines 12-13 and 16-19, subject matter directed to "said patient transport having a first position fully extended away from the NMR polarizing magnet" and "said patient transport having a second position in the gap and being constrained to prevent movement with respect to the lower magnet pole during an MRI imaging procedure".

Claim 19 depends from, and therefore includes the subject matter of claim 18.

Claim 20 sets forth, in lines 4-5, subject matter directed to "placing said patient on a movable bed while said bed is positioned completely away from the NMR polarizing magnet".

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Claim 21 sets forth, in lines 14-16, subject matter directed to "the patient bed moving between the imaging position and a displaced position displaced fully away from the upper and lower poles".

Claim 22 sets forth, in lines 6-8, subject matter directed to "at a location completely displaced from the upper and lower horizontal poles, placing said patient on a movable bed".

Applicant's specification sets forth col. 1, lines 41-44, "the extent of movement being sufficient to allow an object on said support member to be moved between a position within said gap and a position substantially wholly outside of said gap" and col. 3, lines 57-59, "to a position in which it is wholly outside the core arrangement, as shown in full lines in FIG. 3". Note also, col. 3, lines 35-40, col. 4, lines 24,25, and lines 40-49, in which some aspect of the patient bed or platform arrangement is fixed with respect to the magnet arrangement. There is no support for the patient bed or platform being completely or wholly away from the magnet, the scope of which includes a position on the other side of the room from the magnet or in another room from the magnet arrangement.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-13 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian L Casler whose telephone number is 703-308-3552. The examiner can normally be reached on days M - F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marvin Lateef can be reached on 703-308-3256. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-0758 for regular communications and 703-308-0758 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0858.



Brian L Casler

Primary Examiner

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blc

October 1, 2000